

2.2 MITIGATION PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Mitigation performance standards are used to measure the success of the mitigation project in meeting the requirements listed in Section 2.1. The following standards are specified in the special conditions of the federal Section 404 Permit and Ohio Section 401/Isolated Wetland permits and in the approved mitigation plan:.

A. Federal Section 404 Permit Performance Standards

1. Executed copies of all proposed conservation easements must be provided to the Regulatory branch of the Pittsburgh District USACE, not less than ten days prior to the start of construction.
2. The wetland mitigation area must obtain 85% vegetative coverage, dominated by hydrophytic species, with no single species comprising greater than 50% by completion of the third growing season, or corrective measures will be required.
3. All special conditions included in the Ohio 401/Isolated Wetland permits are incorporated into the Section 404 Permit by reference.

B. Section 401/Isolated Wetland Permits Performance Standards

1. Within 60 days of permit issuance, AEC must submit an acceptable, notarized, recorded and filed conservation easement with an acceptable 501(c) (3) organization. The conservation easement shall protect, in perpetuity, 1,970 feet of Piney Creek South, 2,513 feet of Piney Creek North, 2,678 feet of Long Run, 1,690 feet of Stream C, 1,710 feet of Stream D, 610 feet of Stream E, and 2.66 acres of Wetland Mitigation Area A.
2. Streams shall attain the following QHEI scores:
 - a. Piney Creek North and South – QHEI > 59
 - b. Long Run – QHEI > 78
 - c. Stream C – QHEI > 45
 - d. Stream D – QHEI > 66.5
 - e. Stream E – QHEI > 54.5
3. Creation of 2.66 acres of category 2 or 3 non-forested wetlands.